

COMMITTEE CONCERNING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES MEETING MINUTES

City of Middletown

61 Durant Terrace – Recreation/Community Service Building

May 3, 2016

6:00 PM

1. Members Present: Marty Knight/Chairperson, Marie Hurley, Joe Carta – via conference call, Keith Vinci, Richard Pelletier, Elderrean Paules, August DeFrance, Joe Bibisi

Absent: Phil Cacciola, Sky Binney – Youth in Government

Staff Present: Deb Stanley – Acting Director, Recreation/Community Services, Karen Nocera, Recreation/Community Services

General Public: Paiton Guevarez

2. Meeting Called to Order: Called to order at 6:01pm.

3. Public Hearing:

4. Approval of Minutes: *A motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 5, 2016, was made by August DeFrance and seconded by Marie Hurley. The motion was passed with 2 abstentions.*

Departmental Reports:

- August DeFrance stated that there have been no meetings of the Ekersley Hall Building committee. August is on the Riverfront Boathouse Committee and learned a great deal. There is a public meeting tomorrow night and they are picking 1 design out of the 3 that are left. There were initially 6 designs and they are now down to 3. Gerry Daley is the Chairman of this committee. There are 5 groups that will be using this boathouse. It will be used by Wesleyan, Middletown High, Xavier and Choate. The Recreation Division will also be using this. There are 4,000 registered boaters in Middletown. A discussion ensued.
- Marie Hurley stated that the Mattabesset project is moving along. The forced main is 90% completed and 60% – 70% of it has been tested. It will go out to bid in May. The Committee is paying bills. A discussion ensued.
- Ellie stated that Monarca Place is at capacity and they are planning another party at some point prior to Memorial Day. A discussion ensued.
- Richard Pelletier stated that he has been appointed to a committee that is discussing the possible building a new middle school or a merger of schools, including Keigwin. The concept is that the 6th grade – 8th grades should be combined into 1 building which would be in front of the existing middle school. The Planning and Zoning Commission is moving along with nothing to report. A discussion ensued.
- Joe Bibisi stated that he was on the original committee for the harbor area and they had a plan in place that was approved by the public for the improvement of the harbor area. The plan, approved by the public for the harbor area, included the boat house and a convention center. A discussion ensued.
- Joe Carta did not have anything to report.
- Karen Nocera discussed having a table at Feet to the Fire on Saturday. They will have a craft for children and mother's day cards. The fishing derby was successful and they had wonderful weather. The new brochure came out on May 1st. Keith Vinci just finished his sign language class and it was very successful. A discussion ensued.

- Keith Vinci discussed Middletown on the Move. Patrice will do a class/discussion on soil and plants as well as the raised gardens prior to the “Jeff the Plant Guy” program. There will be a bus tour on May 14th showing the City’s brownfields. There will be a deaf rally at the State Capital in Hartford tomorrow from 9-4. The question was posed as to whether or not the City has a method of notifying residents that have disabilities in the event of an emergency. It was mentioned that we should have a Facebook page for CCPD. The police and fire department should be invited to a meeting to discuss this issue. A discussion ensued.
- Deb Stanley discussed the Fishing Derby and how successful it was. It was a group effort between Planning and Zoning, Public Works and the Recreation Department. The Senior Expo was incredibly successful. There were 470 people that came to the Expo. There were State, Federal and local agencies representing all things that pertained to seniors. A discussion ensued.
- Marty Knight stated that he was not able to make the IBS presentation regarding voting to the moderators because everything was last minute. There was a change in location for voting district 14 and the word did not get out. The audible walk signal has been fixed at the corner of Church and Broad Street. It was out for 4 weeks but is now fixed. It does not count down but instead it chirps. A discussion ensued.

Old Business

New Business:

Miscellaneous:

Adjournment: A motion of adjournment was made by Elderrean Paules and was seconded by Richard Pelletier. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Bruni Runte